

The church also plays a large role in the Dyers' life.

She and her husband have been active members of Gardenside Christian Church in Lexington, where their children grew up.

"Over the years we've been Sunday School teachers, youth sponsors, Bible School leaders, etc.," Jerrilyn said. "Currently, we're on the Missions and Benevolence Committees and members of a Sunday School Class. I've served in a Women's Circle and Jack is on the board as an elder and deacon."

So why is volunteering in her community so important to Jerrilyn? "There is much to be said for volunteering in a community," she said. "It can promote so much good will among the citizens and can give a special spirit of unity and pride. Volunteers can get so many projects done that otherwise wouldn't be possible using only its paid staff. And, of course, the volunteer probably gets back more than he or she gives."

### HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

CORPORAL JASON G. PAUTSCH

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, it is with great sadness that I rise today to call attention to a fallen hero. Cpl Jason G. Pautsch, a 20-year-old soldier from Davenport, Iowa, died on April 10, 2009 in Mosque, Iraq, of injuries sustained when an explosive device detonated near his vehicle. My thoughts and prayers go out to his parents, David Pautsch and Teri Johnson, his siblings Jared, Jacob, Josef, and Jenna, and all his friends and family.

Jason was the squadron leader in the Army's 4th Infantry Division and a graduate of Davenport North High School. Graduating a semester early so he could join the Army, Jason was deployed to Iraq last September. His family has a history of military service and his older brother Jacob is currently serving in the Army's 82nd Airborne.

Always a thrill-seeker, Jason enjoyed hunting and racing BMX bikes in his free time. His high school football coach describes him as a strong young man who was passionate about everything he did. Jason had an excellent sense of humor, was a tremendous competitor, and showed dedication in all he did.

Jason told his father David, he "believed in what he was doing" and his sense of patriotic duty is inspirational. I express the greatest respect and sincere gratitude on behalf of all Americans for Jason's commitment to our country. His is a true hero, and his sacrifice will not be forgotten.

### RWANDA

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, while Congress was in recess, Rwanda commemorated the 15-year anniversary of the genocide. Fifteen years ago, a deliberate, centrally planned, and organized campaign of mass murder and rape was set in motion, which displaced millions and eventually took the lives of over 800,000 people. People were killed simply because of their ethnicity or political beliefs or an unwillingness to participate in the violence. The un-

speakable acts of terror that ensued over those months in 1994 shocked the world, and yet the international community, including the United States, failed to act. The promises of "never again" rang hollow.

Fifteen years later, Rwandans have come a long way to repair their lives and rebuild their institutions. I am pleased that the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the Gacaca Courts continue to work to bring to justice those guilty of the most egregious crimes. Accountability is an essential step to promote healing for the survivors and to prevent a return to conflict in Rwanda. At the same time, I have been deeply moved that many survivors of this terror have been willing to forgive and live side by side with many of those who participated in it. Continuing to foster tolerance and openness, and ensure there is sufficient political space for dissent and discussion is critical to maintain future stability in Rwanda.

As a Washington Post editorial recently noted, while the current Rwanda government has made impressive "accomplishments in righting its country and improving basic services it continues to be intolerant of criticism." According to the State Department's reports and those of non-governmental organizations, there is a worrying pattern of repression in Rwanda against political opponents and civil society. Over the long run, suppression and intimidation can undermine security rather than protect it, forcing healthy debates into illicit channels, and casting doubt on the legitimacy of the prevailing order. If this pattern continues, it could intensify Rwanda's ethnic and social tensions, and ultimately lead to future conflicts.

Rwanda has become a good friend and partner of the United States over the years, and our countries have worked together on many important joint initiatives. Most notably, they have become a leader on the African continent in responding to mass atrocities and contributing to peacekeeping operations. This is deeply inspiring given all that they have gone through, and we should continue to work with them to prevent future genocide and mass atrocity. However, we fail to be true friends to the people of Rwanda when we turn a blind eye to patterns of repression in their country, or fail to raise our voices in support of civil and political rights. As we remember those tragic events 15 years ago and commemorate those who perished, we should resolve to pay close attention to the present. The people of Rwanda deserve more than our regret; they deserve our support for their efforts to build a more just, more free and more secure future.

### HOMELESS EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND RAPID TRANSITION TO HOUSING ACT

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise to speak on the introduction of S. 808, the

Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act or "HEARTH" Act, which I am very proud to cosponsor. The HEARTH Act is a landmark housing bill as it significantly improves Federal programs designed to end and prevent the tragedy of homelessness that afflicts too many American individuals and families.

Before I offer some comments on the bill, I praise Senator JACK REED for his long-term commitment and hard work on addressing homelessness. Senator REED has been a longtime leader in housing issues and I value the strong partnership we have had over the past several years. I also applaud his staff, led by Kara Stein, who has worked tirelessly and patiently over the past 8 years on homeless legislation. Further, I would be remiss to not mention the work of our former colleague, Senator Wayne Allard, who also was heavily involved in this legislation before he retired from this Chamber. Finally, I thank Nan Roman of the National Alliance to End Homelessness and Dr. Dennis Culhane of the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy and Practice who have provided us invaluable insights and research on homelessness that helped guide our policy work.

Over 20 years ago, the Federal Government took its first major step in addressing the plight of homelessness through the enactment of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, which was later renamed the McKinney-Vento Act after the death of Representative Bruce Vento who was an early advocate of the law. When this comprehensive law was enacted back in 1987, some legislators thought that homelessness was a temporary problem that could be solved in a few years. Unfortunately, this was clearly not the case. Despite billions of private and public dollars spent on the homeless, millions of veterans, families, disabled, and children have and continue to experience the sad tragedy of living without a home.

Fortunately, homelessness is not a hopeless situation. As the former chair and current ranking member of the Senate Appropriations subcommittee that funds most of the Federal homeless programs, I have worked with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle—especially Senators BARBARA MIKULSKI and PATTY MURRAY—to ensure resources were being provided to the appropriate programs. This is an important task and I am proud of being in position to make a difference.

We learned that throwing money at the problem was not going to solve homelessness but that a smarter, more effective approach was needed. Specifically, we learned that providing permanent supportive housing was the key component in solving homelessness, especially those considered to be chronically homeless. Research led by Dr. Culhane found that chronically homeless received housing primarily through regular, long-term use of the emergency shelter system. Serving the

chronically homeless through emergency shelters interfered with their treatment regimen, resulting in costly hospital and jail stays. Further, local emergency systems became clogged with permanent users, reducing their ability to address the more temporary problems of families and individuals who are homeless because of an economic crisis. Moving away from emergency shelter programs to permanent supportive housing has become the most critical change over the past several years and based on recent studies and programs I have seen in my home state of Missouri, it has clearly worked.

To implement this approach, I worked with Senator MIKULSKI to include a provision, beginning in fiscal year 1999 VA-HUD Appropriations Act and carried every year thereafter, to require that at least 30 percent of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's—HUD—homeless assistance grants be used for permanent housing. Focusing a significant amount of funds towards permanent housing helped reverse the revolving door for the homeless using local emergency systems.

We also learned the importance of gathering data and analyzing the characteristics of our homeless population to design and target funds to programs needed to serve the homeless. The establishment of the Homeless Management Information Systems or HMIS through HUD has now become a critical tool for local continuum of care systems throughout the Nation in addressing their particular homeless populations. Requiring and funding HMIS systems through the VA-HUD appropriations bill was another critical component.

Finally, we learned that despite the involvement of several Federal agencies in serving the homeless, there were gaps in services and coordination was lacking. Again, I worked with my colleagues to reactivate the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness to improve Federal, State, and local coordination of homeless programs. We also required that 25 percent of HUD homeless funds used for supportive services be matched with other funds to expand funding for these needs by encouraging other Federal agencies such as the Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Veterans Affairs to meet their obligations.

The HEARTH Act codifies these important provisions that have been carried in appropriations and builds on our work over the past several years. In addition, the act includes a number of other important provisions that create a new program to assist rural communities help the homeless, increases local flexibility by combining HUD's competitive grant programs, and provides incentives to house rapidly homeless families.

Homelessness is a national tragedy. We are reminded of this tragedy when walking around Washington, DC, St.

Louis, and other towns and cities across the Nation. It is my hope that one day, our Nation's homeless will not be worrying about where they will receive their next meal or where they will be sleeping that night. It is an unacceptable situation. But by working together with advocates, the private sector, and government, we can solve homelessness. The HEARTH Act is a prime example of that partnership and advances our ability to end homelessness.

Updating and improving our homeless programs is even more critical as more Americans face the prospects of homelessness due to the economic downturn. The housing crisis has already displaced many families and individuals creating more strain on social safety net and homeless programs.

Again, I thank Senator JACK REED for his leadership and commitment on homeless issues and I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation so it can be enacted as soon as possible.

#### JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR. SCHOOL OF LAW

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, on March 27 colleagues of Congressman JIMMY DUNCAN from the House of Representatives gathered in Knoxville to celebrate the naming of Lincoln Memorial University's John J. Duncan, Jr. School of Law.

This is an appropriate honor both for Congressman DUNCAN and for the university.

The proposed Duncan School of Law received Tennessee Board of Law Examiner approval last month. This allows its graduates to be eligible to sit for the bar exam in Tennessee.

LMU has already submitted a letter of intent to pursue accreditation for the proposed law school. It hopes to begin admitting students and begin classes in August of this year. That first class will consist of approximately 75 part-time students. The full-time program will begin in fall 2010 and consist of another 125 students.

Congressman DUNCAN earned his journalism degree at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and his law degree at George Washington University. He has served as Captain in the U.S. Army National Guard and practiced law in Knoxville.

In 1981, when I was Governor of Tennessee, I appointed JIMMY DUNCAN as State trial judge. He served until 1988 and I was always proud of that appointment.

It is especially appropriate to combine the names of President Lincoln and the Duncan family. President Lincoln proposed creating the university as a gesture to the mountain people who fought with the Union in the Civil War. The Duncans, like the Alexanders and many others, were early Scotch-Irish settlers who remained loyal Lincolmites even though the State of Tennessee seceded from the Union. So have been most of the people in the

Second Congressional District that Congressman DUNCAN and his father have served. The district has elected only Republicans to the Congress since Abraham Lincoln was President.

President Lincoln once said that education "is the most important subject which we as a people can be engaged in." Naming Lincoln Memorial University's law school for Congressman JOHN J. DUNCAN, Jr., unites two great traditions that will encourage educational excellence in our region.

#### IDAHOANS SPEAK OUT ON HIGH ENERGY PRICES

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, in mid-June, I asked Idahoans to share with me how high energy prices are affecting their lives, and they responded by the hundreds. The stories, numbering well over 1,200, are heartbreaking and touching. While energy prices have dropped in recent weeks, the concerns expressed remain very relevant. To respect the efforts of those who took the opportunity to share their thoughts, I am submitting every e-mail sent to me through an address set up specifically for this purpose to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. This is not an issue that will be easily resolved, but it is one that deserves immediate and serious attention, and Idahoans deserve to be heard. Their stories not only detail their struggles to meet everyday expenses, but also have suggestions and recommendations as to what Congress can do now to tackle this problem and find solutions that last beyond today. I ask unanimous consent to have today's letters printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows.

I get my health care and medications at the V.A. hospital in Boise, Idaho. That requires a four hour drive of over 170 miles, each way. This year I had to cancel my lab appointments and medication renewal exam because it would have cost me over \$250 to make the trip. My only alternative was to drive to the newly opened V.A. clinic in Lewiston, Idaho an 80-mile trip each way. I was then told that I would have to wait an unknown period of time "to get on a waiting list". This trip cost me over 90 plus dollars and gas/diesel is still climbing. If we allow new oil exploration in ANWR and off of our coast, what guarantees are we going to get that this "oil" will be used for the benefit of Americans. As I understand it now most of the oil from Alaska is shipped to Japan, while some is used for U.S. consumption. This is a national resource on national land and appropriate royalties should be dedicated to make gas and diesel affordable for all Americans. Thank you for your time and consideration.

DWIGHT, *White Bird*.

I'm 72 yrs of age, my wife is 70. We have worked hard all our lives, have been responsible, caring citizens. I am a vet, have served in various leadership positions in different organizations, involvement in Boy Scouts and other youth programs, as a responsible citizen over the years we have voted at all elections to exercise our civic responsibility. We are retired, live on a fixed income, with